

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NRC-07 PA-02 SAS-02 SOE-02 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-02 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20
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R 071513Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8249
INFO DOE WASHDC
DOE GERMANTOWN
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 15253

USEEC

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD, BRUSSELS ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, FR, EEC
SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION FAVORS FUEL ELEMENT PRODUCTION
- PRODUCT IN ROMANS, FRANCE

1. AUGUST 5 ISSUE OF EUROPE BULLETIN CARRIED ARTICLE ON
PROJECT FOR PRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR FUEL ELEMENTS IN FRANCE.
FOLLOWING ARE KEY POINTS.

2. THE COMMISSION HAS ISSUED AN OPINION IN FAVOR OF
SOCIETE FRANCO-BELGE DE FABRICATION DE COMBUSTIBLES (FBFC)
SETTING UP A PLANT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR FUEL ELE-
MENTS AT ROMANS (ISERE).

3. SERGE ORLOWSKI, ACTING DIRECTOR FOR R&D AND NUCLEAR
POLICY, DG XII, CONFIRMED REPORT IN CONVERSATION WITH MIS-
SION OFFICER AND STATED THAT PLANT SHOULD HAVE A CAPACITY
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OF 800 TONS OF URANIUM FUEL PER YEAR FOR LWR BY THE MID-
1980'S. HE ADDED THAT WESTINGHOUSE WAS A SHAREHOLDER IN
THE PROJECT (35 PCT). THE PROCESSES USED FOR DRAWING AND
ASSEMBLY WILL BE UNDER A WESTINGHOUSE LICENSE.

4. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, THE PROJECT IS INTENDED TO
STRENGTHEN THE COMMUNITY'S MEANS OF PRODUCTION BY BRINGING

FBFC'S OVERALL ANNUAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY UP TO 1,300 TONS
BY 1982, MAKING FBFC THE LARGEST PRODUCER IN THE COMMUNITY
AND SECOND ONLY TO WESTINGHOUSE AND GENERAL ELECTRIC.
HINTON

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